

## THE IDENTITY OF *TERELLIA IMMACULATA* MACQUART (DIPTERA: TEPHRITIDAE: TEPHRITINAE)

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### Abstract

*Terellia immaculata* Macquart, 1855 is placed as a new synonym of the Palearctic *Terellia longicauda* (Meigen, 1838). Its stated type locality of Marquesas Islands, French Polynesia, is regarded as an error, possibly for Marquise in NW France.

### Introduction

The fruit fly species *Terellia immaculata* Macquart has remained unrecognised since its original description (Macquart 1855). The type female is in the Oxford University Museum of Natural History (OUMNH) and is presumed to be of French Polynesian origin. Bezzi (1913) listed it from the Marquise Islands, while Hardy and Foote (1989) and Norrbom *et al.* (1999) both regarded it as an unplaced species of Tephritidae from French Polynesia (Marquesas Islands). However, the tephritine tribe Terelliini, to which *Terellia* Robineau-Desvoidy belongs, has not otherwise been reported from either the Australasian or Oceanian Regions.

Through the kindness of Adrian Pont and James Hogan (OUMNH), I have been able to examine photographs of the type female. Apart from a missing head, the type is in reasonably good condition and diagnostic characters are clearly visible. It is undoubtedly the same taxon as *Terellia longicauda* (Meigen), a widespread Palearctic species.

### *Terellia longicauda* (Meigen)

*Trypeta longicauda* Meigen, 1838: 356. (Bavaria, Germany).

*Trypeta acuticornis* Loew, 1846: 520. (? Wurttemberg, Germany).

*Terellia immaculata* Macquart, 1855: 145. (Iles Marquises [? Marquesas Is, French Polynesia] – *error?*). **Syn. n.**

*Terellia* (*Terellia*) *longicauda* (Meigen): Norrbom *et al.*, 1999: 222.

*Type data.* The type of *T. immaculata* carries the following labels: (1) [in handwriting of P.J.M. Macquart] – ‘*Terellia* R.D. / *immaculata* / ♀, Macq. n. sp.’; (2) [in handwriting of J.M.F. Bigot] – ‘*Trypeta* *immaculata*. ♀. / *Terellia*. id. Macq. / Ins. Marquis. Macq.’ [‘*rypeta*’ subsequently inserted after ‘*T*’ by J.E. Collin]; (3) [handwritten & printed] – ‘*T. immaculata* / EX COLL. BIGOT’; (4) [circular printed label with red border] – ‘Holo- / type’.

*Comments.* The characters of *T. immaculata* (particularly the scutal pattern, yellow scutellum, hyaline wing with a pale yellow stigma, sectional lengths of the medial vein, white-setose abdomen, long ov scape and aculeus shape) are consistent with those of *T. longicauda* as discussed and illustrated by White (1988) and Merz (1994). The stated type locality of ‘iles Marquises’ [Marquesas Is] is evidently erroneous and is possibly a misrepresentation of Marquise, a town near Boulogne in northwestern France.

*Host plant.* Larvae of *T. longicauda* feed in the flower heads of the thistle *Cirsium eriophorum* (L.) Scop. (Asteraceae: Cardueae) (White 1988, Merz 1994).

*Distribution.* Great Britain, central Europe and western Siberia to Spain, the Balkans and Iran (Norrbom *et al.* 1999).

### Discussion

With the removal of *Terellia immaculata* from the faunal list for the Marquesas Islands, only two other species of Tephritidae remain, the widespread *Dioxya sororcula* (Wiedemann) and the endemic *Trupanea simplex* Malloch (Hardy and Foote 1989). Both belong in tribe Tephritini in the flower-infesting subfamily Tephritinae. No fruit-infesting species are known from these remote Pacific islands (Purea *et al.* 1996).

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